

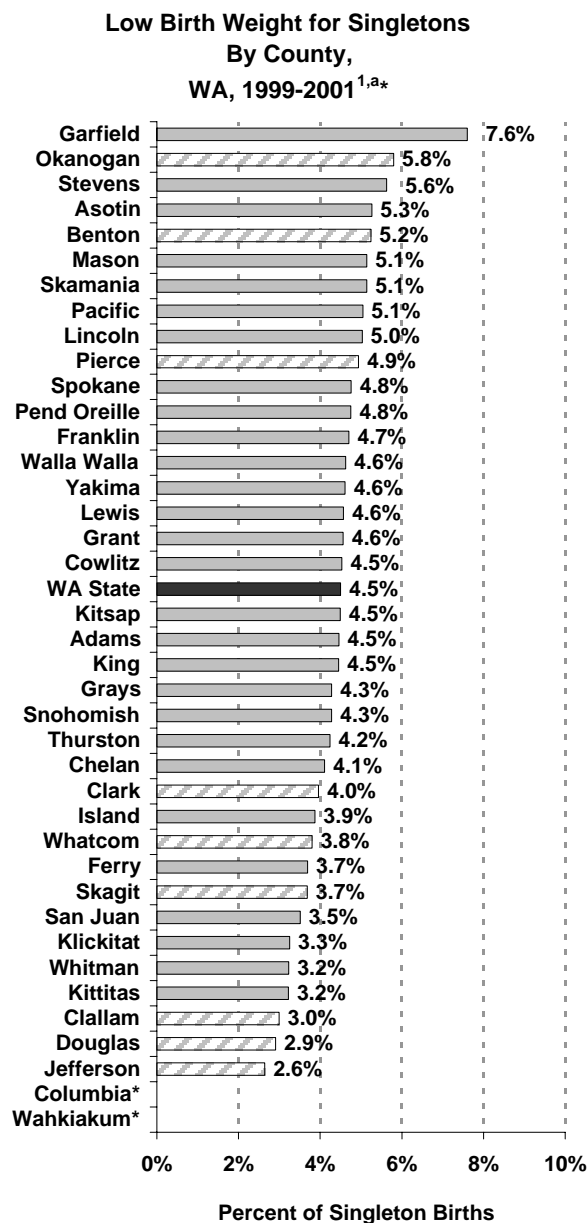
Low Birth Weight for Singleton Births

Key Findings

- ❖ Low birth weight (LBW) is a major contributor to infant mortality and morbidity and care of the LBW infant is costly. These data are limited to singleton births in order to explore factors other than plurality (multiple births) which may be influencing LBW trends.
- ❖ In 2001, the low birth weight rate for singletons was 4.5%, representing 3,454 births in Washington State. The overall Washington LBW (which includes multiple births) was 5.8% or 4,588 births in 2001. In 2001, the national singleton LBW rate was 6.0% and overall LBW rate was 7.7%.^{1,2,3}
- ❖ While the overall Washington LBW rate increased significantly from 5.3% in 1990 to 5.8% in 2001, the singleton LBW rate has not changed significantly from the 1990 rate of 4.3%.^{1,a}
- ❖ Singleton LBW births were significantly higher among Black women compared to women of other races and among women ages 15-19 and 40-44 compared to other age groups.^{1,a}
- ❖ The national Healthy People 2010 objective is to reduce the overall LBW rate to no more than 5.0%.⁵

Definition: Low birth weight is a newborn birth weight less than 2,500 grams (5 lbs. 8 oz.). The analysis in this chapter is limited to singleton (one baby) births.

County

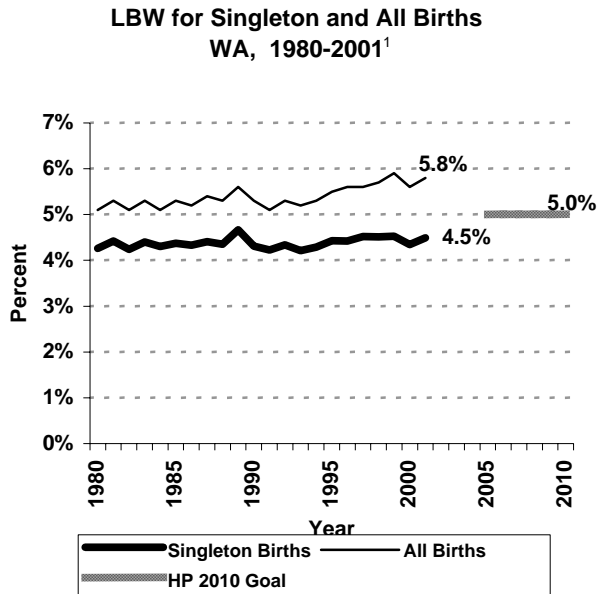


*County rate not calculated if less than 5 events.

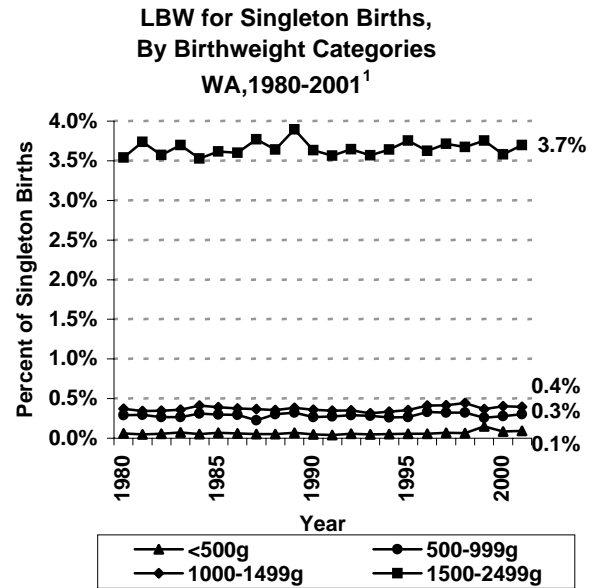
Significantly different from state rate

Low Birth Weight for Singleton Births (cont.)

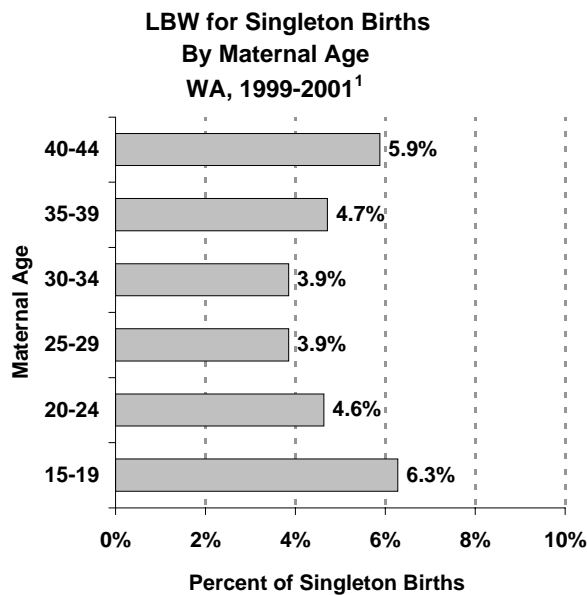
Time Trend



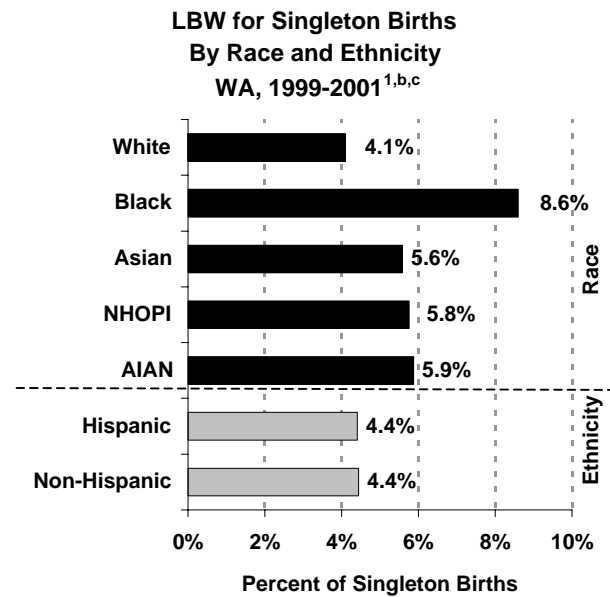
Birth Weight Trend



Age

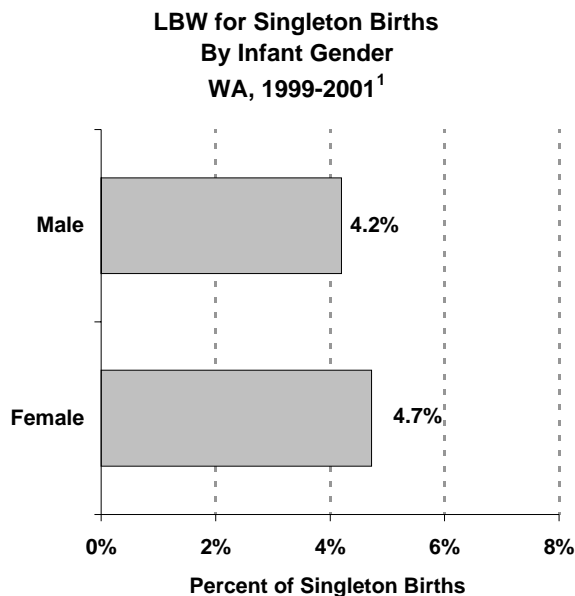


Race and Ethnicity

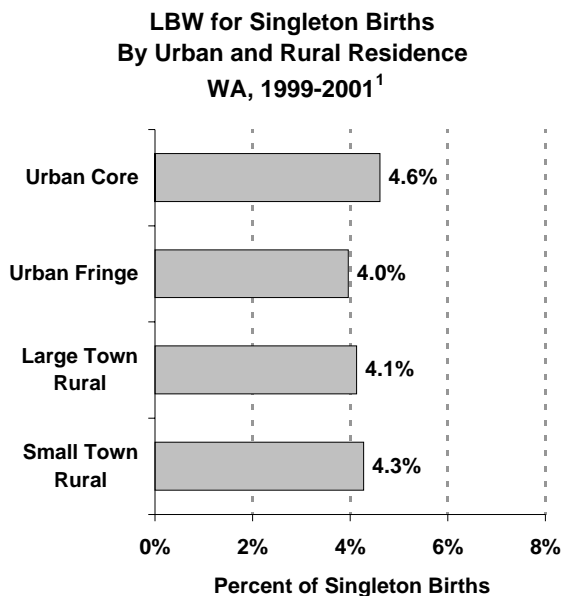


Low Birth Weight for Singleton Births (cont.)

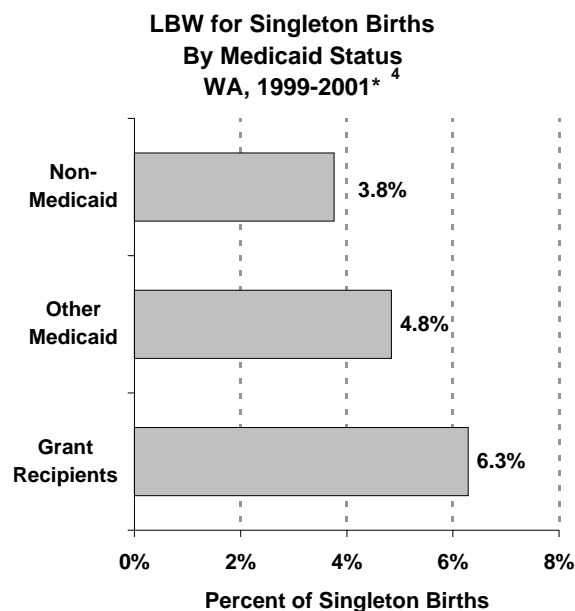
Gender



Rural and Urban Residence



Medicaid Status



**Medicaid women had either prenatal care or delivery paid by Medicaid. Medicaid women include those who are very low income and receive cash assistance (TANF) in addition to Medicaid [Grant Recipients] and those who receive Medicaid with no cash assistance [Other Medicaid].*

Low Birth Weight for Singleton Births (cont.)

Data Sources

- ¹ Washington State birth certificate data: Vital Statistics 2001, Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, December 2002.
- ² Analysis Software: Public Health - Seattle & King County, Epidemiology, Planning & Evaluation, Software for Public Health Assessment (VistaPHw), 1991-.
- ³ Births: Final data for 2001. National Vital Statistics Report; Vol 52 No 2. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 2002.
- ⁴ Cawthon, L. Characteristics of Women Who Gave Birth in Washington State, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, First Steps Database, 10/22/02.
- ⁵ Department of Health and Human Services (US). Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health. 2nd edition. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office; November 2000.

Endnotes

- ^a Significance was determined based on 95% Confidence Intervals.
- ^b AIAN - American Indian Alaskan Native
- ^c NHOPI - Native Hawaiian Other Pacific Islander